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OBSERVATIONS ON COLLODION IN THE TREATMENT OF DISEASES
OF THE SKIN.

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It is now about four months since a solution of gun-cotton in sulphuric ether (collodion) was placed in my hands by Messrs. Bell, of Oxford street, and since I first proceeded to employ it in the treatment of cutaneous diseases. I was at that time much interested in the medical progress of a young lady (the daughter of a physician in the west of England) who had been suffering for many years with scrofulous ulceration of the skin in various parts of the body. She had been under my care for several months, and the sores were much improved, but they were nevertheless very far from being healed. The diseased skin had the appearance of being worm-eaten, its hollows were filled with pus, which burrowed under the surface, and it was moreover thickened and congested. By the constitutional treatment which I had pursued, I had to a considerable degree corrected the pyogenic tendency of her system; but I felt the want of a local remedy that would serve as an impermeable covering to the surface—in fact, take the place of the lost epidermis, and act the part of an artificial scarf-skin. I had tried vulcanized caoutchouc spread with adhesive plaster, gutta percha, nitrate of silver, astringent solutions, ointments, and pressure by bandage, in vain—the remedy was not as yet found. I was revolving this difficulty in my mind when the collodion was put into my hand. The bearer of the little bottle may remember my exclamation, that “that was exactly the thing I wanted.”

On the next visit of my patient, I removed the dressings from the sores, and pencilled them over with the new agent, which covered the surface with a powerfully adhesive film, of about the thickness of gold-beater's skin, and effectually represented the lost scarf-skin. A piece of dry, soft linen was the only additional covering required, and she left me, much delighted at the abandonment of the local applications and bandages. This young lady has since continued to apply the collodion herself, night and morning, until the present time, when the sores are nearly well, and the congestion and scrofulous thickening of the skin almost gone.

From careful observation of the effects of the collodion in this case, I found it to possess four important properties, namely :—

First. That of a mild stimulant.

Second. That of an efficient substitute for the natural scarf-skin.

Third. That of a mechanical compress.

Fourth. That of an adhesive glue, from which quality it derives its name.

First. As a mild stimulant, it is fitted to exert a local alterative action on the congested capillaries of a chronic ulceration, and give activity to the healing process.

Second. In its character of a substitute for the absent scarf-skin, it is transparent, pliant, and more or less impermeable, according to the thickness of the layer that may seem to be required.

Third. Its most remarkable property, as it seems to me, is the contraction which occurs during the desiccation of the collodion, and which produces a local pressure of considerable power on the surface to which it is applied. Thus, in the case above related, the congestion of the thickened skin was relieved by the varnish-like film of collodion spread upon its surface, by means of a camel-hair brush, as completely as if a nicely-adjusted bandage had been placed over it. In another instance, I found a film of collodion entirely remove a purple congestion (resulting from imperfect circulation) from the tip of the nose, in a lady who had long suffered from the annoyance. In a third case, in which the fingers of an elderly lady were congested and blue, and the congestion was attended by pain and throbbing, like that which accompanies chilblains, the collodion produced so much contraction as to render their tips white and bloodless, and I was obliged to discontinue the application in consequence.

Fourth. The glue-like property of the collodion is evinced in its adhesion of cut surfaces, a property which is much increased by the contraction above mentioned. When employed with the purpose of keeping together the edges of an incision, a piece of cambric or thin linen rag should be dipped in the solution, and placed along the line of incision, after the cut edges have been adjusted and carefully dried, perfect dryness of the skin being a necessary condition to the adhesion of the solution. From the rapidity with which the solution dries, and its perfect adhesive powers, collodion is likely to occupy an important place among the "adjuvantia" of surgical practice.

The diseases of the skin in which I have hitherto used the collodion with advantage are, chronic erythema of the face; intertrigo; chapped nipples and chapped hands; herpes labialis, preputialis and herpes zoster; lichen agrius; lupus non exedens and exedens; acne vulgaris; and several affections of the sebiparous organs. In chronic erythema of the face, its contracting power was most usefully evinced, as it was also in lupus non exedens and acne.

In a troublesome case of chapped hands and fingers, resulting from chronic lichen agrius, the collodion acted not merely as a protective covering, but also promoted the healing of the cracks more quickly than the remedies I have been in the habit of employing. In chapped nipples, it was even more efficient in its protective and curative action, and seemed,

in the two instances in which I used it, to work a charm upon the painful skin. The gaping cracks were instantly drawn together, and almost obliterated by the contracting power of the remedy, and were effectually shielded from the influence of moisture, and the pressure of the gums of the infant, and all this in consequence of the rapid evaporation of the ether, in an instant of time. In another point of view the remedy is invaluable as an application to chapped nipples, namely, as being in no wise injurious to the infant, from offering nothing which can be removed by the lips during the act of sucking, and in this particular, therefore, possessing a vast superiority over the various forms of ointments, astringent lotions, &c.

In four instances it immediately put a stop to herpes labialis, and in a very severe attack, it showed itself to be a powerful and useful remedy. Small superficial ulcerations of the corona glandis and prepuce, caused by excoriation, were cured by a single application, and in a gentleman very susceptible of excoriation, it acted admirably as a prophylactic. From the success of the latter trial, I am inclined to think that it might be usefully employed as a prophylactic, in cases of exposure to syphilitic contagion.

When properly applied, the collodion enters all the crevices of the lines of motion of the skin, and adheres so firmly as to require several washings for its removal. As it is usually prepared, it has the consistence of syrup, and in this state is best suited for those cases in which its adhesive properties are principally needed. Where, however, it is intended to be applied to the surface of an ulcer or abrasion, or to chaps of the skin, I find it convenient to dilute it with ether, and render it almost as limpid as water.

In pursuing this subject, I have made trial of a solution of gutta percha in chloroform, and also in benzole, but these solutions are very inferior to the collodion, for the purposes above named. Their adhesive powers are weaker than the collodion; and the layer which they form when painted on the skin, is apt to rise at the edges and rub off.—*London Lancet*.

CHOLERA REPORT.

[THE report on sanitary measures in regard to epidemic cholera, by the Board of Consulting Physicians of the City of Boston, to whom the subject was referred by the City Council, has been alluded to in the Journal, and its insertion promised. It is herewith copied entire.]

During the former prevalence of cholera in this country in 1832, and at the time of its expected arrival in Boston, the opinion of the Consulting Physicians was required by the City Council, in regard to the prevention and management of the disease. A Report on the subject was at that time presented by this Board, and other reports, emanating from different medical bodies in the city, were also furnished to the

city authorities. In these several reports, certain cautionary measures, relating both to private life, and to public sanitary arrangements, were presented to the City Government, and urged upon the attention of the citizens generally. These measures for the most part consisted, as far as individuals were concerned, in the observance of temperance, cleanliness, regularity of life, and avoidance of excesses and of other known causes of disease. And in regard to public precautions, measures were recommended for the purification and ventilation of dwellings, the removal of nuisances, the rigid inspection and expurgation of the dwellings of the poor, as well as of cellars, vaults, drains, and other receptacles of impure and noxious substances. These measures were adopted and carried into effect by the city authorities, and at the same time provisional hospitals were established for the reception of citizen patients of the poorer class.

The events which followed, showed, as far as we can judge, the wisdom of these precautions. While in each of the larger cities of the Union, some thousands of inhabitants were swept off by the ravages of the cholera, it was found that all the deaths which occurred in Boston, from the disease during its epidemic presence, hardly amounted to 80 in number.

The undersigned are not aware, that during the years which have elapsed since the former appearance of the epidemic among us, any more effectual means of obstructing its progress have been discovered, than those which have now been recounted. The vehicle by which cholera passes from one city to another, is unknown. And the means of excluding it from any given place, are not better understood than those of arresting influenza, or any other extensive epidemic. All that can therefore be expected in the case, is that the population of our city may be placed in such a position as shall, under the blessings of Providence, enable them to meet the invasion of the disease, should it come among them, with the smallest sacrifice of life and of health.

For the promotion of this desirable object, the undersigned recommend, that all citizens in times of expected cholera, should endeavor, by a strict course of hygienic rules, to keep themselves in the best state of mental and bodily health of which their respective constitutions admit. Persons who are well, should endeavor to keep so, by the use of daily and regular exercise in the open air, not carried to the point of extreme fatigue—by great attention to cleanliness, both of the skin and of clothing—by daily ablutions with water, which should be cold in all persons who possess sufficient vigor to insure a ready re-action—by regular hours of sleep, of meals and of occupation—by cheerfulness, courage and useful employment of the mind—by moderation in the quantity, and care as to the quality of the food—by strict temperance in regard to stimulating and intoxicating liquors—and by the avoidance of all excesses, irregularities, and debilitating influences.

Among the sources of danger, principally to be guarded against, intemperance is without doubt the most prominent. The abuse of stimulating liquids predisposes the body to the attacks of this disease, and

renders recovery nearly impossible. A drunkard rarely survives the attack of cholera. And even the lesser degrees of indulgence, may be regarded as more unfavorable to escape from the disease, than habits of general abstinence. Nevertheless, it is not recommended that persons accustomed to the moderate use of stimulants should make any sudden or violent change in their mode of living, during the epidemic prevalence of the disease.

Errors in diet—consisting in the use of unripe fruits, of coarse and indigestible vegetables, of stimulating and high-seasoned animal dishes, and even of common food in excessive quantities, such as overtax the digestive powers—are things equally to be avoided, as tending to excite the disease.

Long exposure to a damp atmosphere, confinement in crowded rooms or heated carriages, with subsequent abrupt exposure to cold or night air—residence in low and foggy situations, especially in the neighborhood of impure, stagnant water—proximity to the mouths of drains, and of mud containing decomposing organic matter—exposure to collections of offal and other nuisances which abound in cities—and, lastly, residence in a district already much infected with cholera—are circumstances which increase liability to the disease, and should therefore be avoided by those who have the power to govern their own movements.

In regard to the general sanitary arrangements, which are within the control of the city authorities, the undersigned respectfully recommend, that a course of inspection, purification and ventilation, in most respects similar to that pursued in 1832, be carried into effect as promptly as may be practicable, by Ward committees appointed for the purpose, or otherwise, as the wisdom of the City Council may direct. They advise that the condition of cellars, wells, vaults, and of drains, and their discharging outlets, should be generally examined, especially in the low and crowded parts of the city, and that all sources of nuisance, which may exist, should be speedily corrected or removed.

It is also recommended, that two or more suitable buildings, in different parts of the city, be forthwith engaged, and provided with proper furniture, nurses and other attendants, together with fuel, litters for the conveyance of the sick, and such other appurtenances as are necessary in these establishments, and may require time for their preparation. And should the disease begin to appear on this side of the Atlantic, these buildings, or a part of them, should be immediately occupied, and provided with medical officers, and other necessary agents, together with such comforts, remedies and appliances as the condition of the sick may require. To these hospitals, patients attacked with the disease should be early removed, provided the city is chargeable with their support, or provided they cannot be comfortably lodged and attended in their own dwellings.

The Consulting Physicians are of opinion, that neither quarantines by sea, nor sanitary cordons by land, have been found effectual in protecting cities or countries from the visitation of cholera. Nevertheless, the tranquillity of the public mind, and a respect to the opinions of those

who think differently, may, perhaps, require that vessels arriving from places in which the disease exists, should be subject to the visitation of the health officer, and to the removal of any cholera patients, and their effects, either to Deer Island, or to any other similarly insulated place provided for their reception.

Finally, it is obvious that most benefit is to be expected by all, from a steady and judicious precaution, which shall not be characterized by supineness on the one hand, nor by any panic and agitation on the other. Should the disease appear on this Continent, it is very probable that it may visit this city in its progress. But we trust that the comparative salubrity of our soil, the comfortable condition and temperate habits of a great majority of our population, and the history of our former experience with cholera, may justify a confident hope, that, if the disease should again appear in our city, the annual aggregate of mortality may not be greatly increased by its presence.

JOHN C. WARREN,
JACOB BIGELOW,
GEO. C. SHATTUCK,
GEO. HAYWARD,
JOHN WARE.

Boston, Oct. 31, 1848.

BRONCHITIS IN A CHILD, ALTERNATING WITH DYSENTERY.—PRO- LAPSUS ANI.

BY DAVID W. YANDELL, M.D., OF LOUISVILLE, KY.

I WAS called, on the evening of the 7th of September last, to see Maria S——, a robust, vigorous little girl, aged $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, who had been laboring for some days under a very distressing catarrh which had affected especially the larger bronchial tubes. I found her with hurried, wheezing and embarrassed respiration, a frequent, loose, diffused and deep cough, occurring in paroxysms, and followed by expectoration of a pale, glairy, transparent and watery fluid; her pulse free, full, developed and soft, beating 120; her countenance pale and slightly bloated, her skin dry and hot, her tongue coated in the centre; red at the edges and tip.

Auscultation could not be practised because of her fretfulness, but I could distinctly hear, while holding my ear several inches from her chest, both the sonorous and sibilant ronchi, proceeding from the antero-superior part of the thorax; the former much more distinct after a fit of coughing, and both inaudible when a considerable interval elapsed between the paroxysms.

I ordered her to be placed in a warm bath, to take three grains of calomel and one of ipecac., and use, in doses of a teaspoonful at short intervals, till she fell asleep, the following:—R. Infus. Senegæ, \mathfrak{z} iv.; syrup. ipecac., \mathfrak{z} j.; oxymel. scill., \mathfrak{z} iij.; ant. et potass. tartrat., gr. j.

I further ordered that cloths wrung out of hot water, and renewed whenever they grew cold, should be applied to the chest, to be followed, when she seemed disposed to sleep, by a flannel jacket.

The next morning I learned that she had passed a restless night, was twice called up to stool, and found her in almost the same condition as I had last seen her. The warm bath was ordered to be twice repeated, the cloths kept constantly applied, the mixture continued, her system kept under the influence of the ipecac., till night, when a small portion of calomel and Dover's powder was to be administered.

The medicine had brought away several copious and dark-colored stools, before my visit of the next morning, at which time her pulse was 90, respiration almost natural, the rouchi no longer perceptible, her cough not so frequent and more diffused, the expectoration opaque, tinged with yellow and less viscid, her tongue clean, skin and general expression natural. The mixture was continued during the day, and at night five grains of hydrarg. cum creta, combined with a few drops of denarcotized laudanum, were administered.

She continued to improve for the next two days, when I ceased visiting her. Two days after this time I was called to her again, and found her suffering from dysentery of a very violent form. Her pulse was quick and small; tongue furred, thirst greatly increased; the urine was high colored, voided frequently and with difficulty; the skin harsh, hot and dry, especially over the abdomen, which, however, was neither tense nor tender; the straining was severe, the calls to stool frequent, and the discharges offensive and streaked with blood. During the intervals between the stools no pain was complained of. Pressure over the region of the cœcum and sigmoid flexure of the colon occasioned no uneasiness.

I ordered a warm bath, and a dose of castor oil, to be assisted by an injection of almond oil, to which were added a few drops of laudanum; the abdomen to be swathed in flannel, cloths wrung out of warm water applied to the perineum, and, at night, a bolus composed of calomel, ipecac. and hyoscyamus.

During the next twelve hours every symptom of dysentery, save the tenesmus, had entirely disappeared, while all the symptoms of bronchitis had returned. The latter disease was soon subdued by recourse to the treatment which was so successful in the first attack, and the tenesmus was greatly abated by cooling, opiate and emollient injections used in very small quantities and frequently repeated. The amelioration of the bronchitic symptoms was scarcely apparent, before those of dysentery were re-developed with greater intensity than before, again to subside under the use of opium, ipecac., calomel and oil, and the injection and local means which I have enumerated, when bronchitis again arose, continued for forty-eight hours, disappeared, and was seen no more. The dysentery, from this time till its cure, was accompanied by no other symptom than the tenesmus, which, at first very distressing, gradually became less and less frequent, and entirely ceased upon the application of the extract of belladonna around the region of the anus.

Charmed with the speedy efficacy of the belladonna, I recommended it to my class on the same evening, and had scarcely done so when I was called to my little patient to find considerable prolapsus of the rectum, which had occurred in a very natural and easy stool that she had

ust passed. The gut was easily returned, and I contented myself with prescribing an electuary of sulphur, confection of senna, and simple syrup, directing the mother to gently return the bowel whenever it descended. Learning at my visit next morning, that the prolapsus continued, although the stools were soluble and passed without difficulty, I resorted to injections of an aqueous solution of the sulphate of iron, each injection containing about the eighth of a grain of the iron. Although this treatment was persisted in for three days, the quantity of the iron being daily augmented, no perceptible good resulted. I now used the iron in another manner and combination with the most happy effect, the prolapsus diminishing perceptibly after the first operation of the medicine, and entirely disappearing in the course of two days. The prescription was the following:—R. Pulv. rhei, \mathfrak{z} ijss.; ferri sulphat., gr. xxx.; saponis albi, \mathfrak{z} j.; aq. distil., \mathfrak{q} . s. Ut ft. mass in pil. xx., divid. One of these pills to be taken every night at bed-time.—*Western Journal of Medicine and Surgery.*

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF THE LATE DR. STEPHEN BATCHELLER,
OF ROYALSTON, MASS.

BY STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS, M.D., DEERFIELD.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

WITHIN a very short time an unusual number of distinguished medical men in the United States have been called to pay the universal debt of nature. Their memories should be cherished by their surviving brethren, and their examples held up as patterns for their survivors. Without going into a minute enumeration of all their names, we may be permitted to mention those of Revere, McClellan, Stearns, Allen, Hale, and last, though not least, our lamented brother, Dr. Stephen Batcheller, of Royalston, who died on the 7th of November, 1848. The physicians of the State of Massachusetts, and particularly the Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society, will long remember Dr. Batcheller with affection and esteem; and they and others of the profession, throughout the country, will pardon, I trust, this attempt to trace out some of the principal events and incidents of his life.

Dr. Stephen Batcheller was son of Dr. Stephen Batcheller, of Royalston, Mass., and was born in that town, January 3d, 1778. His father was born at Grafton, Mass. He was a physician, and commenced the practice of the profession in Royalston, in the early settlement of the town, in fact when it was almost entirely a wilderness. He was the first physician who ever settled there, and there he practised till his decease—a period of nearly forty years. Like some of the older physicians in the country, he suffered much from the want of roads, and from the badness of such as existed. Like Haynes, of Rowe, he was obliged to travel by marked trees, in this and the neighboring towns, often by night, and frequently followed by bears and wolves. He was often obliged to ford

streams of water at the risk of his life, as there were then no such conveniences as bridges. Add to this, the roughness of the country in the north-western section of the county of Worcester, and some idea may be formed of the perils and dangers he had to endure in the discharge of his professional duties. Yet, notwithstanding, he never refused to visit a patient on account of the raging of the storm, the darkness of the night, the dangers of the journey, or the poverty of the patient. His ride was very extensive. He was remarkable for his kindness and attention to the poor—never compelling payment from them for medical services. Early in life he made a profession of religion by joining the Congregational church.

Dr. Stephen Batcheller, the son, received his preparatory education at the academies of Chesterfield, N. H., and New Salem, in this State. These were then considered to be among the best institutions of the kind in New England. He devoted much of his attention to the study of the Latin language. He had, also, a good knowledge of Greek. Many students in those days, as at present, were fitted for college in our academies, and some of them were taught the same branches there as are taught at college. After preparing himself, by a good preliminary education, he commenced the study of medicine with his father, at Royalston. The latter period of his pupilage he spent under the instruction of the late Dr. Henry Wells, of Montague, one of the most distinguished physicians in New England. During his pupilage he enjoyed the benefit of seeing much of the practice of Dr. Wells and his father, which was varied and extensive.

He commenced the practice of his profession at Truro, Cape Cod, in the autumn or winter of 1800, being then 22 years of age. He remained there three years. At this time, his father beginning to feel some of the infirmities of age, was anxious that his son should return to Royalston and assist him in his practice, which he accordingly did, and commenced business with him in the year 1803. And it is a fact worth noticing, that the father and son practised in this town in succession for the long period of 80 years; the father 35 years before the son commenced with him, and the son 45 years afterwards.

On the 30th July, 1803, soon after he went to Royalston to reside, he married Miss Sally Stratton, daughter of Rufus Stratton, Esq., of Northfield, who was the first of three wives, two of whom he followed to the grave. The third lives to mourn the loss of an honored and beloved husband. He lived most happily in all these connections. Indeed, few men ever enjoyed themselves more in their domestic relations, and few were more calculated to make these relations happy. He had no children by either of his wives.

As a physician, Dr. Batcheller certainly held a high and very respectable rank, and was greatly esteemed by those of his professional brethren who were most intimately acquainted with him. He probably had for many years a more extensive consultation business than any other physician in the county of Worcester, and perhaps in the State. He had no great fondness for operative surgery, although he attended to all the com-

mon cases of fractures, dislocations and wounds, which occurred in his practice. He was notorious for the rapidity of his travelling. Keeping the best horses, he often travelled 70 miles a-day, and visited his patients. This in a country rough as that in which he resided, must have required an iron constitution, and such an one Dr. Batcheller possessed. I cannot learn that he was ever much afflicted with disease of any kind. A short time before his death, one of his brother physicians observed to him, that he had probably rode more miles since he commenced practice than any physician in Massachusetts. Another physician says—"I never knew a physician who would visit so many patients in a day, and at so great distances apart." One of his patients facetiously remarked, that "Dr. Batcheller only had time to feel the pulse beat once, and then go to dealing out medicine." I do not mention this fact as a pattern for imitation, but only to show the rapidity of the manner in which he transacted business. Patience and deliberation at the bedside of the sick are the only means by which we can become accurately acquainted with the varied phases of disease, or can administer judiciously the appropriate remedies. It was only, probably, in trivial cases that Dr. B. made such hasty examinations.

He was highly honored by the Massachusetts Medical Society, which has ever been extremely guarded in relation to the admission of members, shutting her portals against any who have not been regularly educated and inducted into the profession. This Society has been in operation ever since the year 1781, a period of 67 years. It is believed to be the oldest State Medical Society in the United States, and it has enrolled among its members the principal part of the regularly-educated physicians in the commonwealth. Owing to the progressive advancement of medical science, it has been thought advisable to remodel the By-laws of the Society, to adapt them to the wants of all the members of the profession in the different parts of the State, and a committee has been appointed by the Society for this purpose, who have reported to the Counsellors a new code of laws, which will undoubtedly be adopted by the Society, and we trust will give satisfaction to every regularly-educated physician in the State, who, it is devoutly to be hoped, will cheerfully become a member. Dr. Batcheller became a fellow of this Society on the 1st of June, 1814, and continued his connection with it to the time of his decease. He was one of the most punctual attendants at its annual meetings. Although residing 70 miles, or more, from Boston, he often rode from Royalston thither in his gig to attend this meeting, the day before its assemblage, and returned home the day after in the same way. He held the office of Counsellor in the Society for a great many years in succession, and for two years he held the office of Vice President in it. Connected with the institution, as branches of it, are district societies in many counties of the State. He was one of the founders of the district society for the County of Worcester, and for some time was President of that branch of the Society. He was elected by the Massachusetts Medical Society as a delegate to the American Medical Association,

which met at Baltimore in May, 1848, and he attended that most interesting meeting, and became a member of the Association.

Dr. B.'s practice was judicious in the complaints which were most prevalent in the section of country in which he resided. We wish for no better proof of this than the fact of his being called in consultation so often with his professional brethren, who are generally the best qualified to judge of the merits of a brother practitioner. Dr. Burton observes—"It is virtually impossible for any but a physician to judge with regard to the professional qualifications of a physician." It has been remarked of him, however, that if he was more particularly successful in the treatment of one complaint than another, it was in his treatment of typhus fever. What his *peculiar* practice was, or whether he had *any*, I am unable to say. He was also somewhat famous for his success in the treatment of tetanus or lock-jaw, by means of the tobacco injection. That this is a most powerful agent in relaxing the spasm in this most terrific complaint, we can readily conceive; and it has, also, the concurrent testimony of some of the most successful practitioners in this country and in Europe; but it is a remedy which should be resorted to with extreme caution, as the prostration which follows the use of tobacco, thus employed, is sometimes so great as to induce death. We have greater hopes from the use of the newly-discovered chloroform, or ether, which may be worthy of the attention and consideration of the profession in this frightful and fatal disorder.

During the last fifteen years of his practice, Dr. B. used but little mercury. He was of opinion that many other articles of the *materia medica* were equally efficacious; but he was never guilty of indulging in the pitiful slang against it so frequently resorted to by boasting empirics for the purpose of bolstering up their own reputation, and fostering the prejudices of the people against it. Like most of the old physicians of the present day, he used less medicine than formerly; but what he did use, was in as powerful doses as ever, and he made no pretensions to the fanciful doctrines of the homœopaths, nor had he any belief in their doctrines.

The number of medical students who spent a part or the whole of their pupilage with him, was about 40, many of whom have proved to be respectable and eminent physicians. He was ambitious to keep pace with the improvements in the profession, and was in the habit of procuring and reading the latest and most approved publications in it, both from the periodical press, and standard works. He was an early riser, and his whole time was devoted to his library and his patients. His charges for his professional services were unusually low. Like very many physicians, he was negligent in collecting his debts, especially if the debtor was poor. The widow and orphan were constantly applying to him for advice and counsel. He often assisted them, to his own pecuniary detriment.

He was highly esteemed by his townsmen as a valuable citizen, independent of his professional worth, and had represented his native town in the State legislature. He gave all his influence in favor of the cause of

temperance, and he contributed liberally for the support of the institutions of religion, education, &c. His active usefulness continued to the very end of life. He literally died in the harness. He practised in two of the adjacent towns on the very day of his death. On his return, which was on the day of the Presidential election, on the 7th of November last, he deposited his vote for electors at the town house, and called upon one of his neighbors, apparently well. As he sat at an innocent game of checkers with him, he leaned back in his chair, and observing that he felt faint, called for a glass of water; but before it could be handed to him, he was dead, probably from a fit of apoplexy, as he was very fleshy, and perhaps predisposed, on this account, to that complaint.

A person who was most intimately acquainted with him, says of him—"He was prepossessing in his personal appearance. He exhibited a kind of personal dignity and self-respect, probably leaning towards an erroneous belief of superiority. He never lost his self-respect, nor suffered himself to descend to low, vulgar familiarity. He was very fortunate in securing the friendship and confidence of neighboring physicians. The young physician felt sure that his mistakes or blunders would never be exposed. This kind treatment to physicians explains in some measure his extensive consulting practice."

I am indebted for many of the above facts and data to Jas. Batcheller, M.D., of Marlboro', N. H., a brother of the deceased; and to the Rev. Ebenezer Perkins, of Royalston—both of whom were intimately acquainted with him. In some instances I have used their expressions, and I am permitted to use their names in connection with this subject.

Dr. B.'s funeral was attended at the meeting-house. The house was filled with the people of Royalston and neighboring towns, among whom was a large number of physicians. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Hasen. A biography was also read, compiled by the Rev. Ebenezer Perkins, of Royalston. From this biography the following extracts are taken.

"Dr. Batcheller's zeal, activity and untiring perseverance in the arduous duties of his profession, need not be told to the people of this town and vicinity. And his activity, zeal and mental powers, seemed to be scarcely abated to the very last hour of his life. By day and by night he was ever prompt to the call of sickness and distress. Storms and drifting snows which kept others within doors, were scarcely an obstacle to him. What multitudes, in this town and in this whole region, have been cheered and blessed by his animating presence and his skilful professional services! Indeed, there is scarcely one family in this whole region which has not participated in the blessing. Dr. B., though an eminent physician, was not a mere physician. He was a whole man. He was no less distinguished as a neighbor, a friend, a wise counsellor, an able magistrate, and a citizen. He filled a large space in society, and filled it well. But in the wise providence of God, that large space is now left vacant, and his loss will be deeply and extensively felt.

"It has been remarked that the familiarity of the physician with scenes of distress tends to harden the heart and blunt the finer sensibilities of

nature. It may be so; but it was not so with him. His was a feeling heart—to him suffering humanity never appealed in vain. His heart melted to scenes of suffering. His sensibilities were ever alive. During 45 years of most extensive practice, no one poor and distressed has ever had reason to complain of his extortion or rigid exactions. On the contrary, hundreds of such have enjoyed the benefits of his best exertions without money and without price. During his long practice, in cases of protracted sickness and distress, hundreds, and perhaps thousands of dollars of just claims he has freely relinquished out of mere compassion, while other sums, to a larger amount, he has sacrificed rather than resort to legal measures. Not long previous to his decease, he remarked to the writer, that in his charges he had ever aimed to act on one principle, and that was to do by others as he would wish them to do by him. And now, where is the individual who will stand up and charge him with having once dishonored such a profession?

"And now, fellow citizens, you have reason for lasting gratitude to a kind Providence for having given to this town such men as the two Drs. Batcheller. The father came among you in the infancy of the town, and cheerfully bore with you and your fathers the toils and privations of a new settlement. The son took up his mantle, and has worn it with distinguished honor. Both were men of a generous and noble spirit. Both were men who never sought to build up themselves at your expense. Night and day they labored for little more than a bare sustenance. No people, we believe, were ever at less expense for medical services; and what town was ever better served for so long a period?

"Dr. B. was distinguished as a neighbor. Every neighbor found a neighbor in him—kind, obliging and sympathizing, ever ready to impart and assist whoever and wherever assistance was needed. In him the fatherless found a father; and though not himself a parent, he was a father to the fatherless, and the widow's friend and counsellor. He was the legal guardian of many orphan children, and in him they found a wise counsellor, a kind and firm protector. As a citizen, a member of society, he was public-spirited, and ever free to sustain his full share of every public burden. But he is gone. His toils are ended. He rests from his labors, and his works shall follow him. The places which knew him shall know him no more.

"His memory is a precious legacy to surviving friends. Long will it be ere his loss will cease to be lamented. And may it not be said to him at a future day, 'I was an hungered, and ye fed me. I was naked, and ye clothed me. I was a stranger, and ye took me in. I was in prison, and ye came unto me. I was sick, and ye visited me.'"

Deerfield, Mass., Dec. 23, 1848.

"FIRING," AS A COUNTER-IRRITANT.

BY GEORGE H. HUBBARD, M.D.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

ALTHOUGH it is now several years since "*firing*," as a *counter-irritant*, was first practised in Europe, but little or nothing has been made known of its practical application in this country. Our practical physicians and surgeons are familiar with the use of the *actual cautery*, and with its value as a *certain* remedy in many diseases; but the use of a *hot iron*, as a mild and painless counter-irritant, is known to but few, and practised by less. In Numbers 13 and 15 of Braithwaite's *Retrospect* are articles giving some light upon its use; and as Dr. Corrigan's article gives a perfectly clear and intelligible description of the instrument and mode of application, I copy from it verbatim.

Dr. C. says, "The iron used is very portable, consisting of a thick iron wire shank, of about two inches long, inserted in a small wooden handle, having on its extremity which is slightly curved, a disk or button of iron, a quarter of an inch thick and half an inch in diameter, the whole instrument being only six inches in length. The face of the disk for application is quite flat. This, trifling as it may seem, must be attended to. In the French cauterizing irons, as they are sold by the cutlers, the buttons for the cauterizing are spherical; and the consequence is, that they must be either pressed long and deeply into the skin, to bring them into contact with an extent of surface equal to their diameter, or they can be made only to touch at a single point. Another objection to the French iron, is the great length of its iron handle. This is necessary in the French instrument, as the iron is intended for being heated in the fire—but it terrifies the patient; whereas this little instrument will hardly attract attention. The only other portion of apparatus required is a small brass spirit lamp; so small that it can be carried in the waistcoat pocket. Mr. Millikin, of Grafton street, made the apparatus for me. To use the instrument, it is only necessary to light the lamp, and hold the button of the instrument over the flame, keeping the forefinger of the hand holding the instrument at the distance of half an inch from the button. As soon as the finger feels uncomfortably hot, the instrument is ready for use; and the time required for heating it to this degree, is only about a quarter of a minute. It is applied as quickly as possible, the skin being tipped successively at intervals of half an inch over the whole affected part, as lightly and rapidly as possible, always taking care to bring the flat surface of the disk fairly in contact with the skin. In this way the process of firing a whole limb, or the loins, making about 100 applications, does not occupy a minute, and the one heating by the lamp suffices. You can ascertain at once whether the heat be sufficient. If you look sideways at the spots as you touch them, you will observe that each spot the iron has touched, immediately becomes of a glistening white, much whiter than the surrounding skin. In the course of a quarter of an hour, or sometimes of a very few minutes, the whole skin becomes of a bright red, and the patient feels a glow of heat over the

part. The iron, I need hardly observe, is never rendered red hot. It is, indeed, very little hotter than boiling water, and I never make an eschar with it, and very rarely indeed raise a blister. There are merely seen upon the skin, next day, a number of circular red marks, the cuticle not even being raised, and the surface ready, if required, to receive a fresh application; and what is of no trifling consequence, where such an extent of counter-irritation has been used, there being no discharging surface to interfere with the motion of the limbs, or the comforts of the patient. Indeed, in most cases, the patient is quite unconscious of what has been done. This you will at once see is a considerable improvement on the actual cautery, whether as regards the horror of the patient on seeing a red-hot iron drawn out of the fire, or the deep ulcer produced by its application."

Chronic rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, and particularly neuralgia, are diseases which every practitioner dreads to meet, for the reason that they are quite as likely to withstand every means of cure as to prove in any degree submissive to the "*ars medendi*." In treating each and all of these, and many more of the same class, we have felt the need of a remedy of more certainty of operation than any heretofore in common use. Tonics will cure some of these, and we have a variety of internal remedies which frequently have good effect; blisters and other common counter-irritants are sometimes beneficial, but too often has it been the case that a free use of narcotics has been the only course of treatment productive of any benefit, and with these we can commonly only palliate the sufferings, and prolong the miserable existence of the patient; and if, perchance, we by this means effect a cure of the original disease, we have to deal with visceral derangement and debility scarcely more manageable.

A remedy which can be extensively used, which will unite certainty of operation with ease of application, and freedom from liability to ill results, would certainly seem to merit more than a passing notice from the profession. Such a remedy is "firing." Not that it will cure all the pains and aches attached to poor human nature; not that it is to be the only remedy with which to treat the large class of non-inflammatory diseases, but that it is a remedy of easy and painless application, and of surprising certainty in many cases which have resisted every other known means of cure.

The diseases in which "firing" has proved, and promises to prove, most effectual, are those where individual nerves, or isolated portions of the spinal cord, are implicated, whether alone or in connection with the surrounding tissues.

Dr. McCormack has found it serviceable in "chronic rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, paralysis, neuralgia and hysterical pains;" but it is in neuralgia that most benefit is to be derived. Hereafter, when our other known means of cure have failed, we may expect assistance from this remedy.

My own trials with the "firing" iron have not been very numerous; but in the cases in which I have made use of it, I have experienced

the most happy results. A medical friend, aged 58, who had suffered much from dyspepsia, and the general symptoms of incipient phthisis for some time, was attacked with extensive neuralgia of the back and extremities. By turns his arms, fingers, shoulders, loins, hips and legs had been the seat of the most excruciating agony. For several weeks it had been confined to his loins and down his thighs—sometimes on one side, sometimes on the other. He was taking three grains of opium every twenty-four hours, with benefit to his pectoral difficulties, but it had no perceptible effect upon the neuralgia. At this stage of the case, the "firing" iron was applied every day upon the recurrence of the pain. The iron used was similar to that described by Dr. Corrigan, except that it was three eighths of an inch thick, by which means it held its heat much longer; one heating at a time sufficed. It was heated to the point commonly called "just hissing hot," and applied exactly in the manner described by Dr. C. The touching was kept up over the painful region till the iron cooled. Every application was followed by a decided amelioration of the pain, and each succeeding attack was less severe, till after about ten days the pain was so slight that the treatment was suspended. Since then he has had no recurrence of the pain sufficient to demand treatment.

This case shows as perfectly as any single case can, what we may expect from this remedy; its claims to our notice may be summed up as follows:—

1st. *It is perfectly safe.* No secretion is deranged or internal organ embarrassed.

2d. *It interferes with no other treatment.* We can use internal remedies for the same or any co-existing disease.

3d. *It is painless.* The patient feels only a warm glow over the part, no smarting or any other disagreeable sensation.

4th. *It can be often repeated.*—All external effect is so far gone as to admit of a renewal of the application in ten or twelve hours, which is not the case with any other mode of counter-irritation.

5th. *It is easy of application,* is the work of but a few minutes, and to the zealous practitioner its application can be no task.

6th. *We have one more resort when other treatment fails*—a resort which will cure some otherwise incurable cases, and will do much to lessen the misery of multitudes of our fellow men.

In view of these considerations, I have been induced to prepare this article, hoping more attention may be drawn to a remedy, which seems peculiarly adapted to cure or relieve many diseases incident to the climate of New England. The extent to which it may be applied remains to be made known. That it may be used to advantage in very many cases, and take the place many times of more painful counter-irritants, seems very evident.

Antrim, N. H., Dec. 26, 1848.

 THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

 BOSTON, JANUARY 3, 1849.

Prof. Meigs's Introductory Lecture.—This gentleman has a hearty, happy style—so purely conversational that it matters not upon what topic he writes; there is a certain indefinable something infused into the text, which induces any one who begins to read to keep on to the end. Objections were made to the work on Midwifery from the pen of this gentleman, on account, it was alleged, of its want of dignity of expression, &c., which, by the way, was in our opinion altogether ideal. It is an admirable work, which will be read, and profitably, too, for a century to come. The professor says, in his lecture, that he has been devoted to medical pursuits nearly forty-eight years, "with a zeal that might almost be called passionate; but disgusted," he adds, "at last, with the every-day routine of it, satiated with its clinical results and wearied of its sleepless nights and exhausting days, I find here [in the school] something fresh; something, in spite of Solomon, new under the sun; new faces, new aspirations after knowledge and excellence." Prof. Meigs is an independent philosopher. He has a thorough insight into human nature; and knowing the world by having been in active intercourse with its inhabitants, he thinks and says, and writes and lectures, precisely as he chooses, without regard to the criticisms of people of small calibre. We imagine no one sleeps while he is in the chair, notwithstanding his lectures in the Jefferson Medical College are on midwifery and the diseases of women and children.

Coinciding Tendencies of Medicine.—J. K. Kirtland, M.D., Professor of Theory and Practice in the Cleveland, Ohio, Medical School, lately gave a discourse, introductory to the annual course, which certainly has a spirit of originality about it. The professor leads off, after making some practical and appropriate observations, with certain propositions, viz.: 1st—Remedies will coincide if not adapted to the fulfilment of the indications. 2d—Remedies will coincide if not adapted to the grade of disease. "Cases of similar quality of action may differ in their grades: one may be higher and the other lower in the scale. For instance, two cases of sthenic dysentery may occur, occupying remote extremes, so far as the quality of the action is concerned." 3d—Remedies will coincide if not timed to the stage of the disease. 4th—Remedies will coincide if disproportioned in power to the amount of disease. Dr. Kirtland is exceedingly ingenious at this point, and shows that Lee's or Brandreth's pills, salts, tartar emetic, and various other popular articles, waste the vitality, irritate the mucous membranes and excite irritable action in the biliary apparatus, without at all counteracting the tendency to diseased action. 5th—Remedies will coincide if employed under a false diagnosis. There is too much obscurity in the illustration under this head, to discern the author's views as clearly as he intended. 6th—Remedies will coincide if their use be continued after they have accomplished certain changes in the system. 7th—Remedies will coincide if disproportioned in power to the amount of vitality remaining in the system. For example—"during the stage of exhaustion

in fevers, both the disease and vitality are nearly expended. Any harsh or violent effort to break up the remaining disease, is apt to waste the vitality and destroy the patient." Sth—Remedies will coincide if not suitably qualified.—It is of no consequence to follow the professor further, since it is apparent that he is an exceedingly exact man in whatever regards splitting hairs in disease. There is truth in the illustrations of his propositions, while the propositions themselves stand out like sign-posts without signs. Yet there is light enough in the lecture, if it could be concentrated. Dr. Kirtland is nevertheless full of excellencies—a happy teacher, a kind friend, a benevolent, devoted physician, and fitted for any place to which medical men are ever raised. We like his cautions to students—there is safety in them; and the manner of closing the address, now in a pamphlet, is creditable to his heart, although it may lead some to question his confidence in the services of the profession. "Among the few pleasures," he says, "that reward the skilful physician for his trials and hardships, is the reflection that as an agent, in the hands of Providence, he has occasionally been the means of alleviating the sufferings of his fellow beings, and rescuing them from death. This consoles him to renewed exertions amidst his darkest hours. It may, however, be embittered by the consciousness, that through ignorance or inattention, his remedies, in other instances, have occasioned more than a counterbalancing amount of injury."

Dr. Van Dyke's Introductory.—The introductory lecture by Rush Van Dyke, M.D., of the Chair of Materia Medica and General Therapeutics, in the Philadelphia College of Medicine, commences by congratulating the audience on the sound health and flattering prospects of the new college. From the pages devoted to the neighboring schools, it is inferred that there is no cordiality of friendship existing between them—for which Dr. Van Dyke seems not to care a fig. As matters are going on to satisfy him and those with whom he is associated, it is all very well. Not knowing anything about the local jealousies, or the degree of interference that possibly may have been recognized in the premises, it is better to pass on to the merits of the main subject of the lecture—which may be gathered from this one extract. "No classification that has ever been prepared in any systematic work on the materia medica, has fulfilled the requirements of rational medicine; and second, that materia medica authors, by affixing absolute properties to medicines, and regular doses, and selected rules of administration, have indirectly encouraged empiricism, by placing it in the power of ignorant pretenders under easy rules of procedure to apply medicines as specifics, and to quote the authority of the profession for so doing—in this way converting means of incalculable blessings into instruments of evil to the cause of public health and happiness." But what would the gentleman have?—glorious uncertainty in everything medical? An exact weight and measure, with the specific influences every article in the materia medica exerts, as far as it is possible to ascertain, is a kind of knowledge that practitioners require of responsible authors, of which there are a goodly number enjoying our perfect confidence and respect.

Dr. Cox's Introductory.—If the students of all the institutions of medicine in Philadelphia, were as complimentary in publishing the introduc-

ories of their professors, as those at the Philadelphia College of Medicine, printers would thrive, compositors be in demand, and the profession be supplied with an increased amount of reading. Christopher C. Cox, M.D., holds the Chair of Medical Jurisprudence in this College. He has given a running history of the progress of medicine, from the Egyptian priests to Chiron, and thence onward, down to the living Dr. Chapman. He has Hope large, and encourages those embarked in the study of physic to hope on. It is a hard calling, to be sure, but perseverance is the doctrine that he inculcates. The doctor loves poetry, too, and entertains the reader, as he did the assembly before whom it was delivered, with specimens in both Latin and English. Although this lecture is far from being an extraordinary one, it is lively and full of encouragement, like the letters from California gold diggers. Dr. C. has determined that the new College shall succeed, and it will if all who are connected with it labor for its welfare.

Blank Prescriptions.—Messrs. Philbrick & Trafton, 160 Washington street, Boston, accomplished druggists, have devised a blank for the profession of the city, on which to make their prescriptions. It is partly printed, and ensures uniformity in size. It also reduces the matter to a degree of order which has never existed before. Specimen cases of the blanks have been generously sent to most of the practitioners of Boston, which will soon lead, it is believed, to a general acknowledgment of their utility.

Medical Miscellany.—There are probably 30,000 persons exercising the profession of medicine in the United States.—Scarlet fever still continues to be very destructive in Boston and its neighborhood.—A physician in Pulaski county, Illinois, has been sentenced to the Penitentiary for the term of four years and a half, upon a charge of manslaughter, growing out of his vaccinating a man with smallpox matter, from the effects of which he died. If this statement is true, a more unrighteous sentence was never passed, unless the act was a wilful and malicious one on the part of the physician, which is not to be supposed. Besides, inoculated smallpox is not considered to be attended with a hundredth part the danger of that taken in the ordinary mode.—A child died in Boston last week, aged 4 years and 5 months, who had a cancerous tumor that weighed 12 pounds! being nearly as large as a man's head.—Cholera seems to be active at New Orleans, although some maintain that another disease, and not the genuine Asiatic cholera, exists in that city.—Miss Dix is petitioning the North Carolina Legislature to endow a lunatic asylum, and with so much success that a joint committee has reported a bill appropriating \$100,000 for the purpose.—Several physicians of Boston and the towns near by, are bound for California. They generally have free passage for their professional services on shipboard. More are needed in the vessels, and still more will be wanted in the gold regions. Sulphate of quinine is the medicine to carry. Fevers will probably prevail soon after the rainy season, and prove very destructive to the miners. Intermittents may be expected, as a matter of course, in those who work constantly in the water.

DIED.—At Chelsea, Vt., Dr. Thomas Winslow.—At Haverhill, N. H., Dr. Ezra Bartlett.—In New York, Mr. Henry H. Seymour, a medical student, who killed himself by jumping from an upper story while in the delirium of a fever.

Report of Deaths in Boston—for the week ending Dec. 30th, 81.—Males, 34—females, 47.—Of consumption, 12—scarlet fever, 19—lung fever, 5—pleurisy fever, 1—dropsy, 2—dropsy on the brain, 8—croup, 5—infantile, 5—palsy, 1—child-bed, 3—accidental, 2—hooping cough, 1—old age, 1—teething, 1—inflammation of the lungs, 4—convulsions, 2—tumor, 1—marasmus, 1—disease of the bowels, 1—disease of the heart, 1—drowned, 1—influenza, 1—pleurisy, 1—scrofula, 1.

Under 5 years, 41—between 5 and 20 years 12—between 20 and 40 years, 17—between 40 and 60 years, 5—over 60 years, 6.

MEDICAL SCHOOL OF MAINE.

The Medical Lectures at Bowdoin College will commence on Wednesday, the 14th day of February, 1899.

Theory and Practice of Physic, by WILLIAM SWEETSER, M.D.
Anatomy and Surgery, by EDMUND R. FRASER, M.D.
Obstetrics, by AMOS NOURSE, M.D.
Materia Medica, by CHARLES A. LEE, M.D.
Chemistry and Pharmacy, by PARKER CLEAVELAND, M.D.
Medical Jurisprudence, by HON. JOHN S. TENNEY, M.A.

The Library, containing about 3500 volumes, principally modern works, and the Anatomical Cabinet, are annually increasing.

Every person becoming a member of this institution, is required previously to present satisfactory evidence of possessing a good moral character.

The amount of fees for the Lectures is \$50, payable in advance. Graduation fee, including Diploma, \$18. The Lectures continue fourteen weeks.

Degrees are conferred at the close of the Lecture Term in May, and at the following Commencement of the College in September.

Brunswick, Nov., 1898.

N8—cop61.

P. CLEAVELAND, Sec'y.

PHILBRICK & TRAFTON,

KEEP constantly on hand and offer to the Profession the following Drugs and Chemicals:—Superior Eng. Extracts of Conii, Hyosciami, Belladonna, Taraxaci, Valeriane; Sarsap., do. Comp., Colch. Rad. Acet., Colocynth Comp., Aconite, Stramonii, all manufactured in vacuo and warranted of official strength. Colchicum and all its preparations—viz., Root, Seed, Tincture, Wine and Vinegar. Root and Leaves of Aconite, Eng.; Sat. Tinct. Rad. Aconite, for external use; Essential Oils Ergot, Valerian, Copaiba Cubeba, Vanilla, Oreganum, Camphor. Eng. powdered articles of the finest quality—viz., True Turkey Rhel, true Socotrine Aloes, Digitalis, Squilla, Valerian, Ipecac, Jalap, Gamboge, Colocynth, Opium, Myrrh, Jamaica Ginger; Pure Creosote; Eng. Leaves of Digitalis, Hyosciamus and Belladonna; Root of Turkey Rhubarb, Pareira Brava; Para Sarsaparilla, true; Vallet's Pills and Mass; Blue Pill Opt.; Phosphate Ammonia; Liquor Ammonia concent.; Nitrate Silver in crystals; Tart. Antim., Eng. and French, in crystals; Calomel, Eng. Hydrosublimed; Pure Croton Oil; Eng. Veratrin; Grauville's Counter-Irritant Lotion; Pure Cod Liver Oil, (our own preparation); Pure Sulphuric Ether; Chloroform; Spis. Lavender, comp. superior; Syrup Iod Iron, Sydr. Iod. and Chloride Iron (our own); Queensville's Metallic Iron; Diarsenate Quinine; Iodide Quinine; Valerianates of Zinc, Quinine and Iron; Glycerin; Syrup Rhamni. Comp. Trafton's (our own manufacture); Succinic Acid; Ext. Cannabis Indica; Tinct. of do.; Iod. Hydrarg. Potassa; Muriate of Opium, a new preparation, not possessing the objectionable qualities of the gum; Syr. Prun. Virginian; Do. Comp.; Sat. Tinct. Conium (Scudamora's); Cucumber Ointment; Matico; Tarragona Wine, used in Canker, Diarrhea, &c.; Salts Wormwood; Digitaline; Salicine; Aconitine; Collodion, or Liquid Adhesive Plaster; Tinct. Wild Strawberry, Comp. (used extensively in Dysentery); Donovan's Solution, &c. &c. All new Chemicals added to our list as soon as they appear. We keep also, Swedish Leeches; Glass Ware; Instruments; Pure Spirits and Wines, of every kind, and sold for medicinal purposes only. We intend to make our stock as complete as possible, and every article warranted to be of the quality sold or. Orders invariably filled with the best quality, unless an inferior quality is specified. Any thing not proving satisfactory in quality or price, can be returned at our expense.

June 31

JOSEPH BURNETT,

APOTHECARY (SUCCESSOR TO T. METCALF), No. 33 TREMONT ROW, OFFERS to Surgeons and Dentists, the best selected assortment of Instruments to be found in the city, consisting in part of Amputating, Trepanning, Obstetrical, Dissecting, Strabismus, Pocket, Eye, and Cooper's Cases; Scarificators, Catheters, Bougies, Stomach Pumps, Injecting do., Spring and Thumb Lancets, Dissecting and Dressing Scissors, Trocars, Needles, Bistouries; Dressing, Dissecting, Polypus and Throat Forceps, Tonsil Instruments, &c. &c., of American, English and French manufacture. Extracting Forceps, of Chevalier's manufacture from Dr. Flagg's patterns, in sets of 12, or singly, of superior form and finish; Excavators, Burrs, Pluggers, Drills, Files; Cutting, Splitting and Punching Forceps; Gold and Platina Plate and Wire, common and fine Solder, Spiral Springs, Gold and Tin Foil, MINERAL TEETH, in great variety, (much the largest assortment to be found in New England); Grindstones, and almost every article used in the surgical or mechanical departments of Dentistry. Instruments sharpened and repaired at short notice.

By All orders from the country shall receive careful and prompt attention.

Feb. 10.—tf

WILLIAM BROWN,

At his Apothecary store, corner of Washington and Elliot streets, keeps constantly on hand a fresh supply of Medicines, selected expressly for Physicians' and Families' use, including all the English extracts—Conii, Belladonna, Hyosciami, Taraxaci, &c. Also, all the new Chemical preparations recently introduced. Great care is taken in selecting the choicest of medicines for physicians' prescriptions; not trusting to such articles as rhubarb, ipecac, jalap, aloes, &c., powdered by steam and water power, but having them pulverized fresh from the root, under my own superintendence. The most strict personal attention paid to dispensing physicians' prescriptions. No one permitted to put up prescriptions except those of long experience in the business.

Jan. 5.—ly

BENEFITS IN SICKNESS.

THE MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH INSURANCE CO., established in Boston, will contract to insure males between the ages of 16 and 65—allowances of \$4, \$6 or \$8 per week during sickness for any term from one to five years. Premiums payable annually. Office in Museum Building, Tremont street.

A. L. STIMSON, Secretary.

THOMAS TARBELL, President.

DR. G. H. LYMAN, Consulting Physician.

829—tf

A PHYSICIAN,

PLEASANTLY located in a town about six miles from Exeter, N. H., wishing to retire from practice, would be glad to dispose of his house, land (about three acres), outbuildings, &c., to a well qualified practitioner. Practice worth from ten to twelve hundred dollars. Particulars may be learned on application to Drs. Ferry and Gorham of Exeter, N. H., or Dr. B. T. Prescott, of Boston, Mass. All letters post-paid.

Oct 25—tf